

Workshops

1. The Garden of Scents. Learning through scents and smells

Helen Ekvall Gothenburg Botanical Garden, Sweden
Klara Lorencova Prague Botanical Garden, Czech Republic

Learning about the world of plants using the sense of smell. Learning through our nose is a simple but also a fun way of how to obtain knowledge and remember it. Some visitors with special needs rely highly on their sense of smell, this can help them to learn and understand valuable information about plants.

In this workshop, we'll focus on smell. We'll use plants, their parts or products to find out more about them. We'll play a short „fragrant game“ and we will show you how to prepare it by yourselves for your own students. Some other examples of good practice in botanical garden's education connecting to aromatic plants will also be displayed.

2. Let nature speak for itself

Kennert Danielsson Gothenburg Botanical Garden, Sweden

Signs should not be an obstacle in our meeting with the natural world. However, this is often the case when we inform too much or inform in a way that hinders nature from speaking for itself. During this workshop we will take a closer look at accessible texts that help nature talk for itself. Prepare to actively participate outdoors!

3. Fruit madness

Karen Otto Gothenburg Botanical Garden, Sweden
Mateusz Sowelo Botanical Garden of the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland

The workshop consists of 3 parts. The participants are blindfolded and sit around 4-person tables. The person conducting the workshop puts exotic fruits on the table. The participants' task is to recognize the fruits by means of their senses other than sight. First, they try to recognize the fruit by its shape, then by the scent and finally by the taste. During the second part of the workshop, the participants get a convex world map and try to find the place of origin of the given fruit. At the end of the workshop participants prepare a fruit salad together and taste it.

4. Hello! Hello! This is Bird Radio from the Poznan Grove Station!

Anikó Gál-Bélteki Hungarian Association of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens
Natalia Hałas Botanical Garden of the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland

The world of birds is not only of colors, it is primarily a world of sounds. A world rich with meanings. Birds express their emotions through sounds, they warn of danger, inform „this territory is occupied” and „that’s my mate! stay away!”. Finally, sounds constitute also information for us. What does the Bird Radio broadcast and what is the daily schedule? Let’s find out during the workshop. We will try to identify small fledged singers and the ones who start the broadcast. We’ll get to know the secrets of birds’ communication and the methods of emitting sounds. We also prepared some sound riddles (it’s going to be surprising). At the end we will have a walk around the Garden to put the knowledge from the workshop into the practice.

5. She was weaving garlands and throwing them into rippling water...

Joanna Markiewicz Botanical Garden of the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
Kinga Sikorska Botanical Garden of the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland

Making garlands is a Slavic tradition connected with Midsummer’s Night (June 23/24). Maidens used to prepare garlands of herbs, which, as believed, had magic powers. Then, they put flaming torches into their garlands and let them go downstream, where bachelors were waiting. If a bachelor managed to catch a garland, it was taken as a good sign for the so established couple.

The workshop consists of 2 parts. During the first, blindfolded participants try to recognize herbs using their sense of smell and touch. Only herbs formerly connected with celebrations of the Midsummer’s Night will be selected for this activity. During the second part of the workshop, the participants try to weave garlands, which afterwards may ornament their heads.

6. Never Alone: The Secrets of Symbiosis. The exhibition for all senses.

Alicja Kolasińska Botanical Garden of the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
Eva Novozámská Prague Botanical Garden, Czech Republic
Amálie Balaštková Prague Botanical Garden, Czech Republic

Its theme is the symbiosis of plants and various other organisms. The exhibits can be touched, heard, smelled and sometimes even tasted. Come and try the smell of *Rafflesia*, make a home for a bat in a pitcher of a carnivore plant or find out how to fertilize a rice paddy.

The exhibition is a result of cooperation of an international team coming from 4 botanical gardens within the project Erasmus+ „Botanical Garden: COME IN! VSTUPTE! KOM IN!

WEJDŹ! GYERE BE!”. It was prepared under the guidance of a team of the Prague Botanical Garden, which can boast 22-year-experience in organizing unique exhibitions that present various aspects of nature to a wide public, particularly visitors with special needs.